



WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS—WISCONSIN BAY AREA

(BROWN, DOOR, FLORENCE, KEWAUNEE, MANITOWOC, MARINETTE, MENOMINEE, OCONTO, SHAWANO, SHEBOYGAN COUNTIES)

State of Wisconsin

Department of Workforce Development

April 2005

March Wisconsin Bay Area Unemployment Rate Declines

March 2005	Green Bay MSA	Brown	Door	Flor.	Kew.	Manit.	Marit.	Meno.	Oconto	Shaw.	Sheboygan MSA	Bay Area	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force**	170,900	138,100	15,300	2,900	12,100	44,500	23,100	1,500	20,800	21,400	63,300	342,900	3,027,600
Employed	162,000	131,200	14,000	2,700	11,500	41,800	21,600	1,400	19,300	20,100	60,500	324,100	2,862,300
Unemployed	8,900	6,800	1,300	200	600	2,600	1,500	100	1,400	1,300	2,800	18,800	165,300
Unemployment Rate %	5.2%	4.9%	8.5%	6.1%	5.3%	5.9%	6.7%	8.5%	6.9%	6.2%	4.4%	5.5%	5.5%

Change from one month ago February 2005

Civilian Labor Force**	-1,000	-700	-100	0	-100	-200	-100	0	-190	-200	-200	-1,900	-18,600
Employed	-400	-300	-100	0	0	100	0	-10	-40	-100	0	-400	-7,200
Unemployed	-700	-500	-100	0	-100	-300	-100	0	-150	-100	-200	-1,500	-11,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-0.7%	-0.4%	0.2%	-0.7%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%

Change from one year ago March 2004

Civilian Labor Force**	300	400	-300	-100	0	-1,800	-300	-100	-100	-500	-400	-3,300	-32,600
Employed	1,600	1,300	-100	0	100	-600	-100	0	200	-400	300	700	-7,200
Unemployed	-1,300	-900	-200	0	-100	-1,200	-300	-100	-300	-200	-700	-4,000	-25,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.8%	-0.7%	-1.4%	-1.4%	-0.7%	-2.3%	-1.1%	-3.0%	-1.4%	-0.6%	-1.1%	-1.1%	-0.7%

** Data base on place of residence. Estimates not seasonally adjusted unless noted. Current monthly estimates are preliminary and rounded so total may not add correctly

The March seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for the Wisconsin Bay Area was at 5.5 percent. This was the lowest level for March since 2001, when the rate was at 4.9 percent. The rate declined in nine of the region's ten counties. Menominee was the only county to experience an increase in its rate over the month.

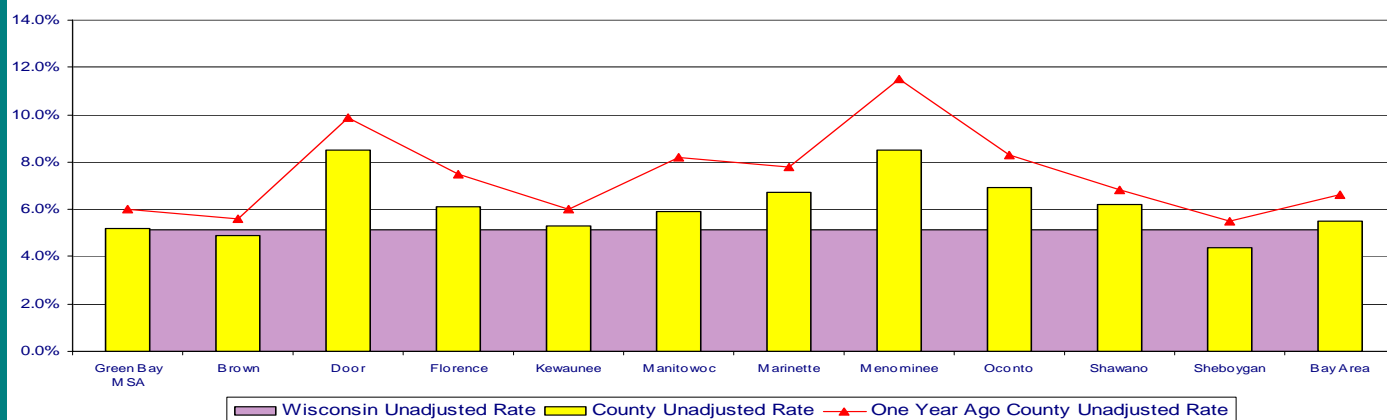
Typically the rate begins to decline between February and March every year. Basically, this is the point that the seasonal cycle begins to "rev" up. On average, (1990—2004) the rate drops about 0.1 of a percentage point dur-

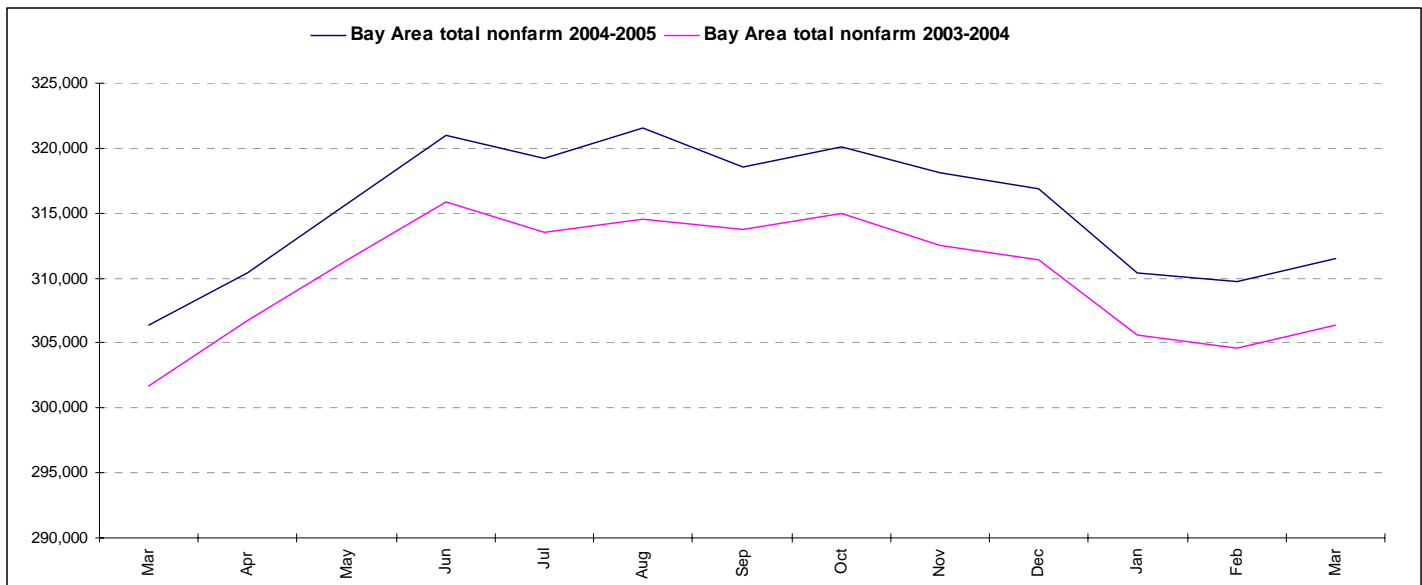
ing the month. This year the monthly rate declined 0.4 of a percentage point, slightly more than the average. Overall, the rate for the month was 1.1 of a percentage point below last March. All ten counties in the region had a decline in their over-the-year unemployment rates. Menominee County experienced the greatest drop in its unemployment rate, dropping 3.0 of a percentage point to 8.5 percent, while Shawano had the smallest decrease with a decline of 0.6 of a percentage point to 6.2 percent.

Rates for individual counties in the region varied greatly,

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Bay Area Unadjusted Rates Compared to Wisconsin





(Continued from page 1)

ranging from a low of 4.4 percent in the Sheboygan MSA to a high of 8.5 percent in Door and Menominee Counties. These two counties were included in the ten counties with the highest unemployment rates in the State of Wisconsin during March.

The number of workers in the labor force as well as the number employed declined in March. While this is not totally unusual, it does not fall into the average change mold either. On average, the labor force and the number of employed begins to increase in March. Influences on this are the weather, colder weather generally slows labor growth, while “nicer” conditions have a tendency to accelerate growth. Holidays, and national and international events will also have an impact on changes during the month. During March, the labor force declined by 1,900 to 342,900, while the number employed decreased 400 to 324,100 workers. The State of Wisconsin followed a similar pattern for the month.

The labor force remained at below one year ago levels during the month. The number in the labor force was down 3,300 from last March. This has been typical of the labor force for all of 2005. Reasons for the decline in workers are unclear. It could be a combination of discouraged workers leaving the labor force, to an increased number returning to school. The number of employed had also

been below one year ago levels during January and February, however this improved during March, and the number estimated to be employed rose to 700 above last March. The number unemployed was estimated to be 4,000 less than last year.

Nonfarm wage and salary (NFWs) employment increased 1,800 over the month to 311,500. Service providing jobs were up 1,800 to 221,900, while goods producing jobs rose 1,000 to 89,600 jobs. Typically these industry sectors decline during January and February and begin to increase during March or April. The number of jobs in the Bay Area was 5,100 above last March.

*Note on the table on page three that with the change of the Green Bay MSA to include Brown, Kewaunee, and Oconto Counties that individual county NFWs data is no longer available as it is aggregated into the Green Bay MSA column.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.wisconsin.gov/oea>.

Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)*											
National (U.S. City Average) 1982-84 = 100				Class B/C - North Central States (1996 = 100)				Class D - North Central States (1996 = 100)			
U.S. City Average	Feb-05	Jan-05	% Change Feb-04	(Size 50,000-150,000)	Feb-05	Jan-05	% Change Feb-04	(Size Less than 50,000)	Feb-05	Jan-05	% Change Feb-04
All Items	191.8	190.7	3.0%	All Items	118.1	117.3	1.7%	All Items	179.2	178.2	0.3%
Food & Beverage	189.3	189.5	2.6%	Food & Beverage	117.7	116.7	3.0%	Food & Beverage	183.0	182.7	3.7%
Housing	192.7	191.8	3.0%	Housing	116.0	115.6	1.7%	Housing	168.5	167.2	-0.7%
Apparel & Upkeep	118.7	116.1	0.1%	Apparel & Upkeep	85.9	85.9	2.0%	Apparel & Upkeep	125.5	126.7	-6.5%
Transportation	166.1	164.0	4.6%	Transportation	119.9	117.7	-0.4%	Transportation	156.3	154.2	-2.3%
Gasoline (all Types)	163.4	155.6	14.7%	Gasoline (all Types)	172.2	162.4	-0.3%	Gasoline (all Types)	153.1	144.8	0.4%
Medical Care	319.3	316.8	4.3%	Medical Care	139.2	137.9	6.3%	Medical Care	316.6	312.7	6.1%
Energy	155.2	151.9	10.4%	Energy	150.5	147.0	3.1%	Energy	143.0	139.7	3.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics *Not Seasonally Adjusted

Wisconsin Bay Area Workforce Development Area										
March 2005	Green Bay MSA	Door	Florence	Manitowoc	Marinette	Menominee	Shawano	Sheboygan MSA	Bay Area	Wisconsin
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	167,800	11,800	1,200	34,900	20,500	2,000	12,300	61,000	311,500	2,776,100
Total Private	146,600	10,100	900	30,200	18,100	100	9,400	54,300	269,900	2,352,900
Goods Producing	39,900	2,800	400	11,900	7,100	0	2,600	24,900	89,600	619,300
Service Producing	127,900	9,000	800	22,900	13,400	2,000	9,800	36,100	221,900	2,156,800
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	8,600	900	0	1,700	700	0	500	2,300	14,700	118,400
Manufacturing	31,300	1,900	300	10,300	6,400	0	2,100	22,600	74,900	500,900
Trade	24,800	1,700	100	4,100	2,800	100	2,100	7,500	43,300	422,600
Transportation & Utilities	11,200	100	0	1,600	800	0	300	1,300	15,300	106,000
Financial Activities	11,000	600	0	1,100	500	0	500	2,300	16,000	157,300
Education and Health Services	21,100	1,400	100	4,900	3,100	0	1,500	7,000	39,100	383,900
Leisure & Hospitality	14,200	1,900	200	2,900	1,500	0	1,200	4,500	26,400	235,900
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	24,400	1,600	100	3,800	2,300	0	1,300	6,800	40,300	427,900
Total Government	21,200	1,700	300	4,600	2,400	1,900	2,900	6,700	41,600	423,200
Federal	1,200	100	20	200	100	10	100	200	2,000	29,200
State	2,600	100	10	200	200	10	100	600	3,700	104,500
Local	17,400	1,500	200	4,300	2,100	1,800	2,700	5,900	35,900	289,500
Change from one month ago	February 2005									
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	800	0	0	300	200	0	0	400	1,800	15,800
Percent change NFWS from last month	0.5%	0.1%	2.2%	0.9%	1.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%
Total Private	700	0	20	250	220	0	50	300	1,500	14,400
Goods Producing	500	0	20	110	150	0	20	200	1,000	4,500
Service Producing	300	0	10	200	100	10	0	200	800	11,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	200	0	10	60	20	0	0	0	300	2,000
Manufacturing	300	0	20	50	130	0	10	200	700	2,500
Trade	-200	0	0	30	0	0	0	-200	-400	500
Transportation & Utilities	0	0	0	20	20	0	0	1,000	1,000	500
Financial Activities	-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	400
Education and Health Services	200	0	0	10	10	0	-10	100	300	600
Leisure & Hospitality	300	0	0	40	30	0	20	100	500	3,200
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	0	0	0	30	10	0	10	100	200	4,700
Total Government	100	0	10	0	0	0	0	100	200	1,400
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	600
Local	100	0	10	0	0	0	0	100	200	700
Change from one year ago	March 2004									
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	3,900	100	0	-100	200	0	100	1,000	5,100	31,800
Percent change NFWS from last year	2.4%	0.7%	0.3%	-0.2%	0.9%	-2.0%	0.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.2%
Total Private	3,700	100	0	-200	200	0	-100	1,000	4,800	30,600
Goods Producing	1,300	0	0	-200	200	0	-100	200	1,500	10,600
Service Producing	2,600	0	0	100	-100	0	200	800	3,700	21,200
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	700	0	0	100	0	0	0	-100	700	4,200
Manufacturing	600	100	0	-300	200	0	-100	300	700	6,400
Trade	700	-100	0	-100	0	0	0	300	900	2,100
Transportation & Utilities	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	700	1,800
Financial Activities	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	600
Education and Health Services	800	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	1,000	11,900
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	100	0	-100	0	0	0	500	200	3,300
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	400	300
Total Government	200	-100	0	100	0	0	200	0	400	1,200
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,100
Local	200	-100	0	100	0	0	200	0	400	-900
*** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted.										
Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2003										

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea>

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